INDICATOR: Poor Child Relations

Threshold: A raw score of 12 or below identifies poor relationships with children.

Specific indicators:

- Limited time spent in conversation with child.
- Low level of respect in adult/child relations.
- Lack of feelings of closeness between adult/child.
- Actions fail to show caring/concern.
- Limited/no discussion about illness with child.

Does the patient:

- express frustration with his/her child?
- feel unable to communicate with his/her child?
- report poor verbal interactions with his/her child?
- report the child is acting out at school/home?
- have concerns about child's friends/activities?

Interventions:

- Assess for spouse/partner/companion abuse.
- Identify communication difficulties.
- Enhance communication skills through use of role play, assistance with question formulation.
- Recommend ongoing therapy in community.
- Facilitate expression of feelings/needs (e.g., journaling, writing letters, videotaping).
- Arrange psychiatric consult, if needed.
- Provide interdisciplinary collaboration, if needed.

